

**East Bellevue Community Council**  
Summary Minutes of Regular Meeting

March 2, 2004  
6:30 PM

Lake Hills Community Clubhouse  
Bellevue, Washington

PRESENT: Chair Bell, Councilmembers Eder, Keeffe, Seal, and Wiechmann

STAFF: Cheryl Kuhn, Neighborhood Outreach Manager

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the East Bellevue Community Council was called to order at 6:30 PM with Chair Bell presiding. Chair Bell led the flag salute.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Roll was called by the Deputy City Clerk. All Councilmembers were present.

**3. COMMUNICATIONS – WRITTEN AND ORAL None.**

**4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Ms. Wiechmann moved the approval of the March 2, 2004 regular meeting agenda. Mr. Seal seconded the motion.

Following Council discussion, these agenda additions were made:

- 10(a) Main Street Median Plantings.
- 11(a) Proposed zoning change for Kelsey Creek Center.
- 11(b) Finance Department's survey
- 11(c) Central Puget Sound Growth Management Board Survey
- 11(d) 2004 Comprehensive Plan Update – Transportation Element.

Motion to approve the March 2, 2004 agenda as modified carried with a vote of 5-0.

**5. PUBLIC HEARINGS: None.**

**6. RESOLUTIONS: None.**

**7. REPORTS OF CITY COUNCIL, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS: None.**

**8. DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

Cheryl Kuhn, Department of Planning and Community Development, provided Council with a brief history of the West Lake Hills Neighborhood Investment Strategy and resulting recommendations. Of the proposed projects, twenty-six of the immediate projects have been completed, and, of the eighteen capital projects, five are completed. She reported that a number of the remaining capital projects are underway. Some of the major projects requiring significant public outreach as the first step in the design process include:

- 145<sup>th</sup> Place SE pedestrian improvements  
New traffic figures have been generated and consultants are being interviewed in preparation for the launch of this project. Public outreach will get underway with a February open house. Staff will begin working with the public to define the early implementation elements.
- Lake Hills Boulevard tree/sidewalk replacement  
With the completion of surveying and base mapping, staff will prepare design options for presentation to the public in an early spring workshop.
- Gateway/identity pilot project  
With the adoption of a professional design framework for community identity projects, the City will launch its first neighborhood identity project in the West Lake Hills pilot area. Community involvement in the design process is scheduled for early 2004. The first community meeting is scheduled for March 16<sup>th</sup> at St. Louise Catholic Church. This outreach will explore what neighborhood gateways are and where they should be located.

Continuing her report, Ms. Kuhn noted the dead tree removals on Lake Hills Boulevard.

In response to Mr. Keeffe, Ms. Kuhn stated the tree failures are due in part to the wrong type of soil coupled with them being at the end of their life span. Birch trees typically live only fifty to sixty years.

Ms. Kuhn noted residents concern not so much with the width of the sidewalk but with the separation from the street. Voiced concerns indicated the desire for a good sized planting strip and replacement of the landscaping. The preliminary drawings for the sidewalks between 148<sup>th</sup> and 156<sup>th</sup> will be available for public review at the end of April or first of May.

In response to Mr. Keeffe, Ms. Kuhn explained available funds for the sidewalk replacement project is \$580,000. This project does not include intersections.

Responding to Mr. Eder, Ms. Kuhn stated a gateway treatment does not necessarily have to be fancy but can instead be landscaping, a piece of art or a distinctive street treatment. Input from the community will help decide what the gateways will look like and where they will be located.

In response to Mr. Bell, Ms. Kuhn stated that, in regards to improvements to 145<sup>th</sup> SE, the priority has always been pedestrian safety. The highest priority pedestrian improvements are what will get built for the \$3.1 million inclusive of design costs.

Chair Bell stated the finished project is a pedestrian improvement project. By the same definition, it is not a capacity addition. He asked if the expectation was, for the amount of money in the CIP, that this project provide all the pedestrian safety items along with repaving the roads, or, is this only a part of the project? Ms. Kuhn responded that compared to what was envisioned by the CAC the proposed project is a partial improvement.

Chair Bell noted his impression from a meeting with Steve Sarkozy that the available dollars on the front end would design the project and begin some of the construction featured.

Ms. Kuhn agreed with Chair Bell's synopsis, stating that it was vital that the community say what they think are the most important things to start with.

Ms. Kuhn stated that this project dovetails with some other projects that are being built in the area. The SE 16<sup>th</sup> project for one is a \$4.6 million project that goes up to the intersection of 145<sup>th</sup> and SE 16<sup>th</sup>. The coordination of this project with the 145<sup>th</sup> Place SE Improvement Project will realize some economies, as the SE 16<sup>th</sup> project was able to provide some drainage benefit for the 145<sup>th</sup> Place SE project.

In response to Mr. Keffe, Ms. Kuhn stated her understanding of the overall design for the 145<sup>th</sup> Place project.

Mr. Keffe stated concerns regarding consultant costs. Responding, Ms. Kuhn stated a consultant had already been selected but she was unsure of the exact costs.

Ms. Kuhn reported that with the adoption of a professional design framework for community identity projects, the City is launching its first neighborhood identity project in the Lake Hills pilot area. Community involvement in the design process is scheduled for early 2004.

(b) Quarterly Home Occupation Report

Chair Bell noted the written Quarterly Home Occupation Report included in the packet.

**9. COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Chair Bell briefly commented on the 145<sup>th</sup> Place Project open house held on February 24<sup>th</sup>. Contrary to his expectations, a whole new set of designers have been selected with a whole new set of ideas. Chair Bell suggested that the City quit reinventing the wheel and use the cross sections and designs already well defined by the 140<sup>th</sup> project.

**10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

(a) Main Street Median Plantings

Mr. Keffe reported on the response from the Parks Department and that he was pleased with the replantings.

**11. NEW BUSINESS**

(a) Proposed Zoning for Kelsey Creek Center

Chair Bell noted that a courtesy public hearing has been scheduled for the Community Council's April 6, 2004 meeting.

(b) Finance Department Survey

Chair Bell stated that he received the Finance Department Survey in the mail. Councilmembers Seal and Eder stated that they also received a copy of the survey in the mail. Since the mailing appears to have gone out on an individual basis, it was agreed that response would also be made individually.

(c) Central Puget Sound Growth Management Board Survey

Chair Bell noted the survey received from the Central Puget Sound Growth Management Board and solicited a collaborative response from the Council.

(d) 2004 Comprehensive Plan Update – Transportation Element

There was Council discussion and a consensus to request a staff briefing from Kevin McDonald at the April or May meeting.

12. **CONTINUED COMMUNICATION**: None.

13. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** None.

14. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

(a) February 3, 2004 East Bellevue Community Council Summary Minutes

Mr. Keeffe moved approval of the February 3, 2004 East Bellevue Community Council Summary Minutes. Mr. Seal seconded the motion which carried with a vote of 5-0.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Keeffe moved adjournment. Mr. Seal seconded the motion, which carried 5-0. The meeting of March 2, 2004 adjourned at 7:45 PM.

Submitted by:

Michelle Murphy, CMC  
Deputy City Clerk